

CURRENT MINNESOTA LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS

5/16/86

April 1986 Supplement to the Review of Labor and Economic Conditions
Prepared by the Research & Statistics Office, MN Dept. of Jobs & Training, 390 N. Robert St., St. Paul, MN, 55101, in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment & Training Admin.

Nation

Economic developments in the Nation were somewhat mixed in March and the first quarter. Although the preliminary estimate showed that real gross national product rose at a healthy rate in the first quarter, most of the monthly data for March including the employment numbers indicated that the economy was sluggish.

Further declines in goods producing employment darkened an otherwise satisfactory employment picture in March. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged down to 7.2 percent in March after jumping from 6.7 percent in January to 7.3 percent in February. Meanwhile, seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by only 192,000 in March as a gain of 271,000 in the services industries was partially offset by a decline of 79,000 in the goods sector. Employment in mining, especially in oil and gas extraction, and in durable goods manufacturing fell substantially in both February and March.

While real gross national product grew at a strong 3.2 percent annual rate in the first quarter, monthly data for industrial production, retail sales and housing starts showed declines in March. Also, personal income and personal consumption expenditures showed only slight improvement in March. However, it should be noted that housing starts were at a very high level (more than 1.9 million) in the first three months of the year.

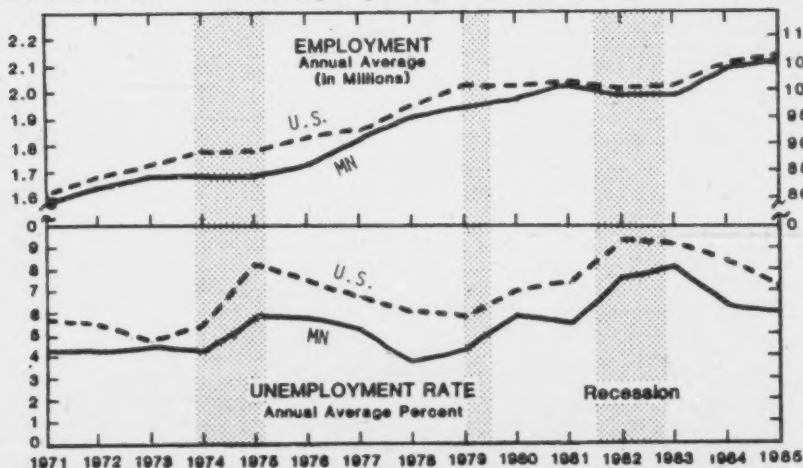
State

Except for the unemployment rate which fell for the second straight month in March, the labor market situation was somewhat weaker in March than in earlier months as the growth in both total and nonfarm payroll employment slowed further. Nevertheless, regional economists expect that the State's economy will be stronger in 1986 than in 1985.

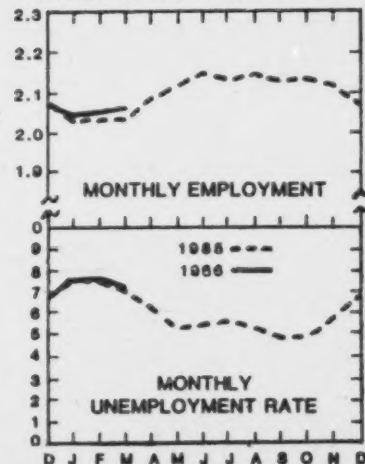
The State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell 0.2 of a percentage point to 6.1 percent in March after a drop of 0.1 of a point in February. Before the peak of 6.4 percent in January, the rate had risen almost steadily since May 1985. On the other hand, seasonally adjusted total employment rose by a modest 4,300 in March after gains of 12,600 in February and 14,200 in January. Also, adjusted nonfarm payroll employment climbed rather slowly in March, rising by 2,200 after larger increases in the two previous months. A very large gain of 1,344 in special trades construction accounted for much of the over-the-month gain in payroll employment. Substantial over-the-month increases also occurred in business services, state education and heavy construction. The March gains were partially offset by further declines in durable goods manufacturing, particularly in the computer, electrical machinery and transportation equipment industries. Over-the-year, payroll employment rose by 28,000 as large gains in services, government and trade offset declines in durable goods manufacturing and metal mining.

Labor Force Estimates	MINNESOTA (Numbers in Thousands)			UNITED STATES (Numbers in Millions)		
	March 1986	Change	From	March 1986	Change	From
		Last Mo.	Year Ago		Last Mo.	Year Ago
Civilian Labor Force	2,225.0	4.8	39.3	116.3	0.6	1.9
Employed	2,064.3	12.0	32.1	107.6	1.0	1.9
Unemployed	160.7	-7.2	7.2	8.7	-0.4	0.0
Unemployment Rate						
- Actual	7.2	-0.4	0.2	7.5	-0.3	0.0
- Seasonally Adjusted	6.1	-0.2	0.1	7.2	-0.1	-0.1

MN and the U.S., Employment & Unemployment Rate



MN, 1985 and 1986



Labor Market Conditions

MINNESOTA NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT, HOURS & EARNINGS											
Industry	EMPLOYMENT ^{1/} (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS ^{2/}					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours	
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985
Total Nonagricultural	1,850.5	1,844.5	1,823.0	0.3	1.5						
Manufacturing	364.5	365.1	373.4	-0.2	-2.4	420.24	402.19	10.30	9.98	40.8	40.3
Durable Goods	217.5	218.1	228.0	-0.3	-4.6	438.05	415.24	10.53	10.03	41.6	41.4
Lumber and Furniture	17.0	16.7	16.3	1.6	3.7	467.81	413.71	11.41	10.83	41.0	38.2
Stone, Clay and Glass	6.1	6.0	7.0	2.5	-12.2	417.09	364.27	10.64	10.29	39.2	35.4
Primary Metals	6.3	6.2	6.4	1.0	-0.8	406.78	398.04	9.46	9.30	43.0	42.8
Fabricated Metals	36.1	36.2	35.5	-0.2	1.8	484.46	448.62	11.48	10.81	42.2	41.5
Nonelectrical Machinery	83.4	84.3	94.3	-1.0	-11.6	448.62	450.66	10.81	10.36	41.5	43.5
Office and Computing	42.7	43.3	50.2	-1.4	-14.9	474.96	500.95	11.39	10.75	41.7	46.5
Electrical Machinery	26.9	27.2	28.6	-0.9	-5.8	351.10	310.45	8.44	7.82	41.6	39.7
Transportation Equipment	7.5	7.6	7.3	-1.3	2.7	541.25	504.13	12.50	11.38	43.3	44.3
Scientific Instruments	28.4	28.2	27.3	0.4	4.0	414.50	401.85	9.94	9.73	41.7	41.2
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	5.8	5.8	5.4	0.1	8.2	406.43	346.14	9.70	9.28	41.9	37.3
Nondurable Goods	147.0	147.0	145.4	0.0	1.1	396.21	384.12	9.98	9.90	39.7	38.8
Food and Kindred	41.8	42.1	41.4	-0.8	0.9	362.39	338.04	8.97	8.69	40.4	38.9
Textiles and Apparel	4.4	4.3	4.6	2.1	-3.6	247.23	224.22	6.70	6.37	36.9	35.2
Paper and Allied	32.2	32.3	33.1	-0.4	-2.7	505.06	488.78	11.94	11.61	42.3	42.1
Printing and Publishing	44.4	44.1	42.6	0.7	4.3	383.14	381.91	10.19	10.55	37.6	36.2
Chemicals and Petroleum	10.3	10.2	10.0	0.5	2.5	466.17	429.84	11.37	10.80	41.0	39.8
Rubber, Plastic and Leather	14.0	13.9	13.8	0.3	1.5	333.84	324.04	8.56	8.33	39.0	38.9
Nonmanufacturing	1,486.0	1,479.4	1,449.6	0.5	2.5						
Mining	6.6	6.4	8.1	3.6	-17.6	530.55	533.32	13.50	13.64	39.3	39.1
Metal Mining	5.3	5.2	6.7	1.8	-21.4	556.66	554.33	14.31	14.25	38.9	38.9
Construction	57.4	55.7	54.8	3.1	4.9	541.55	588.12	14.96	15.60	36.2	37.7
Transport., Comm., & Pub. Util.	98.0	97.6	96.8	0.4	-1.2						
Transportation	64.6	64.2	62.8	0.5	2.8						
Trucking and Warehousing	26.0	26.2	25.6	-0.5	1.8	386.40	415.19	12.00	11.63	32.2	35.7
Communication and Public Util.	33.4	33.4	34.0	0.1	-1.8	552.62	534.49	13.92	13.23	39.7	40.4
Trade	458.1	454.9	450.6	0.7	1.7	233.92	224.66	7.72	7.59	30.3	29.6
Wholesale	114.9	114.3	114.6	0.5	0.3	405.58	375.59	10.32	9.91	39.3	37.9
Retail	343.2	340.6	336.0	0.8	2.1	184.21	180.34	6.65	6.63	27.7	27.2
Building Materials	15.9	15.6	15.8	1.5	0.6	326.97	318.69	8.65	8.58	37.8	37.0
General Merchandise	48.6	49.0	48.7	-0.7	-0.2	179.20	169.10	6.54	6.24	27.4	27.1
Food Stores	46.3	46.0	45.1	0.6	2.6	201.44	205.46	7.22	7.26	27.9	28.3
Automotive	38.8	38.3	37.6	1.3	3.0	345.22	326.63	8.99	8.90	38.4	36.7
Apparel	17.4	17.3	17.3	0.4	0.8	121.09	125.26	5.43	5.32	22.3	23.5
Home Furnishings	14.5	14.3	13.5	1.0	7.0	233.21	241.55	7.38	7.62	31.6	31.6
Eating and Drinking	115.5	113.6	112.4	1.6	2.7	104.88	98.28	4.56	4.55	23.0	21.6
Fin., Insur., Real Est.	113.2	112.7	108.0	0.4	4.8						
Finance	53.3	53.1	51.4	0.5	3.8						
Insurance	41.8	41.6	39.4	0.5	6.1						
Real Estate	18.1	18.0	17.2	0.2	4.8						
Services	436.8	435.0	425.4	0.4	2.7						
Personal Services	21.7	21.6	21.2	0.2	2.3						
Business Services	78.8	78.2	77.0	0.8	2.4						
Repair Services	19.4	19.2	18.4	1.3	5.6						
Health Services	140.7	140.2	138.8	0.3	1.4						
Hospitals	49.2	49.2	49.8	-0.1	-1.2						
Nursing Homes	40.2	40.1	39.9	0.3	0.8						
Legal Services	12.9	12.9	12.0	0.1	7.7						
Private Education	26.2	26.1	25.2	0.4	4.0						
Government	315.9	317.1	305.9	-0.4	3.3						
Federal	32.9	32.8	31.2	0.2	5.3						
State	78.8	79.8	76.3	-1.2	3.3						
Education	43.5	44.6	41.3	-2.4	5.2						
Local	204.2	204.4	198.4	-0.1	2.9						
Education	111.4	110.8	106.9	0.6	4.2						

^{1/} Totals may not add because of rounding.

^{2/} Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full and part-time production or nonsupervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Labor Market Conditions

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

Tables 1 and 2 provide data on persons who filed a claim for unemployment compensation in Minnesota during the month. Only those claiming benefits from the regular State program are represented since data on the characteristics of Federal employees and veterans are not available.

Total claimants for unemployment benefits fell at a slower rate than they usually do in March, dropping by 2,588 or 3.8 percent. The average February to March percentage decline over the past eight years was 4.9 percent. The largest over-the-month drop was in construction where claimants decreased by 1,357 or 6.1 percent. Construction claimants on average fall by 5.1 percent between February and March. Over-the-year, the total number of claimants rose by 5,204 or 8.7 percent. The biggest over-the-year gains were in mining (1,223), retail trade (1,069) and services (1,061).

Table 1. Distribution of Insured Unemployed, by Age and Sex, March 1986

Age Groups	Number	Percent Distributions		
		Men of Totals	Men of Men	Women of Women
TOTALS	65,251	77.8	100.0	100.0
Under 45	49,513	78.4	76.4	74.0
Under 25	10,698	77.4	16.3	16.7
25-34	24,495	79.6	38.4	34.5
35-44	14,320	77.0	21.7	22.8
45 and Over	15,738	76.1	23.6	26.0
45-54	8,983	76.1	13.5	14.8
55 and Over	6,755	76.0	10.1	11.2

TABLE 2. Distribution of Insured Unemployed by Industry and Occupation, March 1986

Industry and Occupational Attachment	Number	Percent of Total	Percent Long-Term ^{1/} Unemployed	Women as Percent of Total
Total, All Industries	65,251	100.0	26.9	22.2
Ag., For., Fish.	1,887	2.9	41.5	10.4
Mining	2,881	4.4	53.7	3.2
Construction	20,987	32.2	24.4	2.5
Manufacturing	16,716	25.6	26.5	32.9
Public Utilities	3,102	4.7	23.5	14.6
Wholesale Trade	3,539	5.4	25.7	21.3
Retail Trade	6,200	9.5	22.5	38.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	1,185	1.8	30.4	55.1
Services	6,955	10.7	26.1	49.4
Public Admin.	1,089	1.7	33.8	27.3
Info. Not Available	710	1.1	3.4	28.9
Total, All Occupations	65,251	100.0	26.9	22.2
Prof., Tech., Mgr.	6,552	10.0	28.3	35.9
Clerical	4,901	7.5	25.5	77.7
Sales	2,124	3.2	25.7	33.5
Services	3,204	4.9	26.4	52.2
Farm., For., Fish.	1,576	2.4	42.1	9.9
Processing	2,411	3.7	21.7	34.5
Machine Trades	3,891	6.0	28.7	12.7
Benchwork	5,477	8.4	26.3	55.5
Structural Work	22,892	35.1	23.5	1.7
Miscellaneous	11,990	18.4	32.0	8.3
Info. Not Available	233	0.4	35.6	18.6

^{1/} Long-Term unemployed refers to unemployment insurance claimants whose current spell of unemployment has lasted 15 weeks or longer.

Job Service Applicant Supply and Demand

Table 3 compares Job Service (J.S.) job applicants with the J.S. job openings that existed at the end of the month. These comparisons are expressed as supply/demand ratios. Other things being equal, the greater the ratio of applicants to openings, the greater the competition has been for work within that occupational category. To put these ratios into context, the reader must remember that not only do job seekers and employers in general find jobs or recruit workers through other means, but those interested in certain kinds of jobs are particularly unlikely to use the J.S. For example, workers seeking professional and Managerial jobs are least likely to use the J.S., whereas employers usually recruit construction workers through union halls and hire teachers directly. Thus, the main value of Table 3 is that it reflects, for broad occupational groups, the relative labor market conditions that those using the J.S. encountered when seeking work.

Table 3. Experienced Supply/Job Openings Demand

Occupation	Applicants (Supply) March 1986	Job Openings (Demand) March 1985	Supply/Demand Ratio	
			March 1986	March 1985
Total	19,355	9,513	10.4	10.8
Prof., Tech., Mgr.	11,770	1,232	9.6	8.9
Clerical	16,447	1,945	8.5	8.1
Sales	5,258	972	5.4	4.3
Domestic Services	1,426	130	11.0	13.5
Other Services	15,799	2,881	5.5	6.1
Farm., Fish., For.	2,313	174	13.3	26.2
Processing	1,784	275	6.5	8.6
Machine Trades	6,807	372	18.3	18.0
Benchwork	7,271	331	22.0	13.3
Structural Work	13,709	317	43.2	49.2
Mtr. Frght., Trans.	4,456	352	12.7	17.0
Pkg. & Mat. Hndlg.	11,393	465	24.5	35.9
Other	922	67	13.8	22.3

^{1/} Inexperienced and improperly coded job applicants are not included in this table.

Analysis of Local Conditions

MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL MSA

By Bruce Steuernagel

Preliminary estimates of nonagricultural wage and salary employment in March show only anemic growth from February levels. Job losses continued in the durable goods manufacturing sector, particularly in the electronics and computer-related groups. However, the number of jobs in the retail trade and service industries also fell, on a seasonally adjusted basis, between February and March. This trend is uncharacteristic of these industry divisions and indicates the severity of the manufacturing losses as well as cautiousness of consumers at the present time.

The strongest job gains over the month were again posted by the construction and financial services industries which are benefitting from declining interest rates.

A comparison of payroll job growth over the past year in the U.S. and Twin Cities shows that the local area growth is only about half that of the national average, 1.6 percent compared to 3.5 percent. The number of manufacturing jobs locally is 3.5 percent less than a year ago, while manufacturing jobs have declined -0.7 percent nationally. Another interesting contrast in growth trends is in the service sector.

Nationally, the number of service industry jobs has increased by 5.1 percent compared to only 2.1 percent locally. The two largest service industry groups are business services and health services. Nationally, business service jobs are up by 7.1 percent from a year ago compared to a 0.3 percent decrease locally. Health service industry jobs have increased by 4.1 percent nationally and only 1.0 percent locally. Much of the slowdown in business services job growth can be attributed to the weak conditions in the manufacturing sector. This is apparent in the startling slowdown in the number of jobs in temporary personnel agencies. These are firms which supply temporary labor to many different industries but increasingly to the manufacturing sector. During the early stages of the recovery from the 1982-83 recession, temporary employment service jobs in the U.S. increased by 41.3 percent (January 1983 to January 1984). Between January 1984 and 1985 these jobs continued to increase but at a slower rate, 17.8 percent. Between January 1985 and January 1986, temporary personnel service jobs have increased only 5.1 percent.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES									
AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMP. RATE		
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985
Minneapolis-St. Paul MSA*	1,328,605	1,324,257	1,283,902	70,491	72,506	63,931	5.3	5.5	5.0
REGION 11	1,232,250	1,227,753	1,189,538	63,033	64,422	56,302	5.1	5.2	4.7
Anoka	126,484	126,291	122,047	7,431	7,837	6,657	5.9	6.2	5.5
Carver	23,402	23,400	22,629	1,232	1,342	1,141	5.3	5.7	5.0
Dakota	127,450	127,080	123,223	6,910	7,147	6,392	5.4	5.6	5.2
Hennepin	575,146	572,563	554,348	27,819	27,991	23,865	4.8	4.9	4.3
Ramsey	278,118	276,987	268,822	14,072	14,270	12,902	5.1	5.2	4.8
Scott	28,663	28,739	27,768	2,062	2,272	1,985	7.2	7.9	7.1
Washington	72,987	72,693	70,701	3,507	3,563	3,360	4.8	4.9	4.8
Chisago*	17,141	17,020	16,474	1,577	1,534	1,389	9.2	9.0	8.4
Isanti*	15,198	15,205	14,827	1,187	1,265	1,248	7.8	8.3	8.4
Wright*	38,097	38,325	36,971	3,120	3,524	3,070	8.2	9.2	8.3
St. Croix, WI	25,919	25,954	26,092	1,574	1,761	1,922	6.1	6.8	7.4
Bloomington	50,072	49,730	47,877	2,571	2,488	1,857	5.1	5.0	3.9
Minneapolis	213,495	212,402	205,686	11,252	11,177	9,667	5.3	5.3	4.7
St. Paul	158,896	158,202	153,712	8,821	8,883	8,255	5.6	5.6	5.4

* Chisago, Isanti and Wright counties are a part of the Minneapolis/St. Paul-MN-WI MSA, but are included in Region 7.

Analysis of Local Conditions

MPLS-ST. PAUL NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT, HOURS & EARNINGS

Industry	EMPLOYMENT ^{1/} (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS ^{2/}					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours	
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985
Total Nonagricultural	1,211.2	1,210.5	1,192.0	0.1	1.6						
Manufacturing	250.4	251.6	259.5	-0.5	-3.5	444.71	431.90	11.09	10.56	40.1	40.9
Durable Goods	158.7	159.9	166.1	-0.7	-4.4	453.50	444.98	11.17	10.47	40.6	42.5
Lumber and Furniture	7.6	7.5	7.1	2.1	8.2	516.67	451.82	12.10	11.89	42.7	38.0
Stone, Clay and Glass	2.4	2.3	2.7	4.3	-10.4	455.52	374.60	11.65	10.07	39.1	37.2
Primary Metals	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.9	1.7	406.79	391.56	9.33	9.17	43.6	42.7
Fabricated Metals	29.6	29.6	28.4	-0.1	4.2	518.40	479.64	12.00	11.42	43.2	42.0
Nonelectrical Machinery	64.6	65.4	73.5	-1.2	-12.1	477.02	470.20	11.55	10.59	41.3	44.4
Office and Computing	33.5	34.0	39.2	-1.5	-14.6	514.95	505.98	12.29	10.72	41.9	47.2
Electrical Machinery	15.6	16.2	17.7	-3.9	-12.0	366.39	323.57	8.85	8.13	41.4	39.8
Transportation Equipment	4.6	4.6	4.1	-0.2	12.0	650.71	644.90	14.27	13.78	45.6	46.8
Scientific Instruments	25.2	25.2	24.1	0.0	4.8	433.67	412.00	10.18	10.00	42.6	41.2
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	4.0	4.0	3.6	0.2	11.7	409.15	369.14	9.32	9.87	43.9	37.4
Nondurable Goods	91.6	91.7	93.4	-0.1	-1.9	430.73	409.58	10.96	10.75	39.3	38.1
Food and Kindred	17.6	17.6	17.6	-0.2	-0.3	403.25	392.18	10.42	9.78	38.7	40.1
Textiles and Apparel	1.5	1.5	2.2	1.7	-30.0	262.19	226.04	6.74	6.44	38.9	35.1
Paper and Allied	25.1	25.2	25.8	-0.4	-2.6	476.60	440.66	11.54	11.27	41.3	39.1
Printing and Publishing	30.2	30.3	30.2	-0.3	0.1	418.38	405.77	11.01	11.43	38.0	35.5
Chemicals and Petroleum	8.5	8.5	8.4	0.1	1.6	510.30	468.47	12.60	11.89	40.5	39.4
Rubber, Plastic and Leather	8.7	8.6	9.3	0.8	-6.2	382.14	364.57	9.65	9.16	39.6	39.8
Nonmanufacturing	960.8	958.8	932.4	0.2	3.0						
Mining											
Metal Mining											
Construction	40.3	39.8	37.9	1.3	6.5	589.84	601.10	16.43	16.29	35.9	36.9
Transport., Comm., & Pub. Util.	68.7	68.6	66.1	0.2	3.9						
Transportation	47.4	47.3	44.3	0.3	7.0						
Trucking and Warehousing	16.3	16.4	15.6	-0.6	4.9	376.80	422.50	12.86	12.39	29.3	34.1
Communication and Public Util.	21.3	21.3	21.8	0.0	-2.4	533.97	437.33	13.45	12.25	39.7	35.7
Trade	296.8	296.4	289.3	0.1	2.6	258.10	241.83	8.38	8.17	30.8	29.6
Wholesale	78.3	78.2	78.0	0.1	0.3	430.64	398.18	10.82	10.59	39.8	37.6
Retail	218.5	218.3	211.2	0.1	3.5	204.68	192.14	7.31	7.09	28.0	27.1
Building Materials	9.0	9.0	8.7	0.3	4.2	344.85	339.11	9.50	9.19	36.3	36.9
General Merchandise	35.3	35.6	35.1	-1.0	0.4	199.76	181.23	7.16	6.59	27.9	27.5
Food Stores	26.2	26.2	25.7	0.2	2.1	294.10	245.10	8.50	8.54	34.6	28.7
Automotive	22.8	22.7	21.9	0.3	4.2	405.62	362.84	10.04	9.65	40.4	37.6
Apparel	11.4	11.5	11.4	-0.7	0.2	102.05	114.70	5.18	5.19	19.7	22.1
Home Furnishings	10.2	10.4	9.3	-1.9	9.3	183.30	253.58	6.50	8.05	28.2	31.5
Eating and Drinking	73.8	73.2	70.8	0.8	4.3	108.28	96.26	4.99	4.65	21.7	20.7
Fin., Insur., Real Est.	87.7	86.9	82.6	0.8	6.2	337.82	320.53	8.16	8.71	41.4	36.8
Finance	37.2	36.8	35.7	1.1	4.4	383.53	330.30	9.11	9.00	42.1	36.7
Insurance	34.9	34.7	33.0	0.4	5.7						
Real Estate	15.6	15.4	13.9	1.2	11.8	225.94	206.61	7.15	7.10	31.6	29.1
Services	297.5	296.8	291.4	0.2	2.1						
Personal Services	15.7	15.6	14.9	0.4	5.0						
Business Services	67.8	67.9	68.1	-0.1	-0.3						
Repair Services	14.8	14.7	13.8	0.4	7.4						
Health Services	79.1	79.1	78.3	0.0	1.0						
Hospitals	29.3	29.3	29.4	0.0	-0.1						
Nursing Homes	21.4	21.5	21.8	-0.3	-2.1						
Legal Services	9.6	9.7	9.2	-0.4	4.8						
Private Education	17.0	16.8	16.6	1.2	2.2						
Government	169.9	170.2	165.2	-0.2	2.8						
Federal	19.4	19.4	18.4	0.0	5.6						
State	51.9	51.8	51.1	0.1	1.5						
Education	29.0	29.1	27.5	-0.3	5.6						
Local	98.6	99.0	95.8	-0.4	3.0						
Education	54.1	53.9	52.5	0.4	3.1						

^{1/} Totals may not add because of rounding.

^{2/} Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full and part-time production or nonsupervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Analysis of Local Conditions

CENTRAL AND NORTHWEST MINNESOTA

ST. CLOUD AREA

By Ron Daws

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES									
AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMP. RATE		
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985
St. Cloud MSA	85,575	85,711	85,344	7,066	7,434	7,936	8.3	8.7	9.3
REGION 1	40,212	40,003	40,642	5,573	5,326	5,509	13.9	13.3	13.6
Kittson	2,711	2,619	2,832	454	378	401	16.7	14.4	14.2
Marshall	5,199	5,143	5,294	1,150	1,183	1,093	22.1	23.0	20.6
Norman	3,558	3,519	3,709	463	439	448	13.0	12.5	12.1
Pennington	6,157	6,124	5,941	745	755	652	12.1	12.3	11.0
Polk	14,044	14,243	14,577	1,760	1,590	1,835	12.5	11.2	12.6
Red Lake	2,067	1,998	1,976	509	482	333	24.6	24.1	16.9
Rosseau	6,476	6,357	6,313	492	499	747	7.6	7.8	11.8
REGION 2	29,578	29,442	30,184	4,183	4,270	3,999	14.1	14.5	13.2
Beltrami	16,324	16,263	16,123	1,839	1,845	1,662	11.3	11.3	10.3
Clearwater	3,641	3,698	3,751	962	1,048	965	26.4	28.3	25.7
Hubbard	5,677	5,534	6,058	921	867	840	16.2	15.7	13.9
Lake of Woods	1,901	1,932	1,898	164	194	200	8.6	10.0	10.5
Mahnomen	2,035	2,015	2,354	297	316	332	14.6	15.7	14.1
REGION 4	94,973	94,458	94,944	9,221	9,662	9,707	9.7	10.2	10.2
Becker	11,936	11,538	11,990	1,836	1,903	2,065	15.4	16.5	17.2
Clay	27,282	27,248	26,241	1,909	1,998	1,784	7.0	7.3	6.8
Douglas	13,652	13,634	13,585	1,174	1,253	1,233	8.6	9.2	9.1
Grant	3,214	3,225	3,124	324	346	337	10.1	10.7	10.8
Otter Tail	23,228	23,185	23,928	2,579	2,660	2,843	11.1	11.5	11.9
Pope	4,665	4,669	4,634	506	563	479	10.8	12.1	10.3
Stevens	5,269	5,246	5,429	408	425	414	7.7	8.1	7.6
Traverse	2,247	2,242	2,389	195	220	215	8.7	9.8	9.0
Wilkin	3,480	3,471	3,624	290	294	337	8.3	8.5	9.3
REGION 5	54,370	54,298	56,623	6,775	7,195	7,186	12.5	13.3	12.7
Cass	8,620	8,665	9,194	1,405	1,509	1,356	16.3	17.4	14.7
Crow Wing	18,814	18,722	19,607	2,008	2,175	2,246	10.7	11.6	11.5
Morrison	12,813	12,798	13,274	1,704	1,790	1,893	13.3	14.0	14.3
Todd	9,538	9,577	9,882	1,052	1,132	1,100	11.0	11.8	11.1
Wadena	4,585	4,536	4,666	606	589	591	13.2	13.0	12.7
REGION 6E	50,815	50,773	50,160	5,366	5,685	4,860	10.6	11.2	9.7
Kandiyohi	17,054	16,854	17,207	1,501	1,539	1,496	8.8	9.1	8.7
McLeod	15,225	15,296	15,024	1,296	1,425	1,149	8.5	9.3	7.6
Nekeer	9,298	9,227	8,374	1,482	1,678	1,029	15.9	18.2	12.3
Renville	9,238	9,366	9,555	1,087	1,043	1,213	11.8	11.1	12.7
REGION 7E	55,372	55,331	54,903	5,919	6,198	5,792	10.7	11.2	10.5
Chisago	17,141	17,020	16,474	1,577	1,534	1,389	9.2	9.0	8.4
Isanti	15,198	15,205	14,827	1,187	1,265	1,248	7.8	8.3	8.4
Kanabec	5,776	5,791	5,754	763	822	812	13.2	14.2	14.1
Miller Lacs	8,416	8,408	8,791	970	1,035	1,016	11.5	12.3	11.6
Pine	8,841	8,907	9,057	1,422	1,542	1,327	16.1	17.3	14.7
REGION 7W	123,672	124,036	122,315	10,186	10,958	11,006	8.2	8.8	9.0
Benton	13,260	13,272	13,172	1,152	1,200	1,234	8.7	9.0	9.4
Sherburne	16,562	16,646	16,291	1,582	1,710	1,521	9.6	10.3	9.3
Stearns	55,753	55,793	55,881	4,332	4,524	5,181	7.8	8.1	9.3
Wright	38,097	38,325	36,971	3,120	3,524	3,070	8.2	9.2	8.3

1/ Benton, Stearns, and Sherburne Counties

ST. CLOUD MSA NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	63,960	63,771	60,775	0.3	5.2
Total Manufacturing	10,996	10,905	10,433	0.1	5.4
Durable Goods	6,059	6,022	6,005	0.6	0.9
Non-durable Goods	4,988	4,963	4,428	0.5	12.7
Total Nonmanufacturing	52,964	52,786	50,342	0.3	5.2
Construction	2,093	2,011	2,216	4.1	-5.9
Transp., Comm. & Pub. Util.	3,651	3,671	3,629	-0.6	0.6
Wholesale Trade	3,130	3,114	2,962	0.5	5.7
Retail Trade	15,831	15,877	14,458	-0.3	9.5
Finance, Insur. & Real Estate	2,224	2,211	2,103	0.6	5.8
Service & Miscellaneous	13,355	13,242	12,956	0.9	3.1
Government	12,680	12,660	12,018	0.2	5.5

While total employment increased 1.4 percent (or 1,101 jobs) in the St. Cloud MSA from March 1985 to March 1986, the number of jobless dropped by 870 to bring the unemployment rate down from 9.3 percent to 8.3 percent. March 1986's unemployment rate was also improved from February's 8.7 percent. Meanwhile, the State unemployment rate increased from 7.0 to 7.2 percent, and the Twin City's rate increased from 5.0 to 5.3 percent.

Compared with February 1986, there were virtually no net changes in the number of jobs in the area. With the exception of construction which added 4.1 percent more jobs as the weather improved, the number of jobs among other industries remained within one percent of February's levels.

The industries providing more jobs this March than last were Nondurable Goods - up by 12.7 percent, Wholesale Trade - up by 5.7 percent, Retail Trade - up 9.5 percent, Services & Miscellaneous - up 3.1 percent and Government - up 5.5 percent. Taken together these industries added 3,162 jobs over the year. To a small extent they were offset by the loss of 123 construction jobs.

Analysis of Local Conditions

NORTHEAST MINNESOTA

By Michael Casey

The regional employment situation improved somewhat over the month. Employment levels registered nearly 900 additional jobs in March, while the estimated number of people still looking for work fell by 1,500 below the comparable February level. These labor market developments caused the rate of unemployment to drop by more than one full percentage point, to a rate of 13.3 percent of northeastern Minnesota's labor force participants. By comparison, the rate of joblessness throughout the State stood at 7.2 percent.

Much of the improvement in new employment opportunities could be attributed to the seasonal job growth which usually occurs at winter's end.

Warming weather conditions this past March allowed many construction workers to return to work. With nearly 800 fewer claims overall for unemployment compensation benefits, active claims among construction workers fell by 230 claims. Another 160 fewer claims were accounted for by the durable goods sector of the manufacturing industry. These two industries accounted for almost one-half of the decline in active unemployment claims.

Recalls in the mining industry recorded the most significant industrial improvement from February to March. Some 370 fewer claims were recorded in March as several mines began to increase production levels following varying periods of shutdown.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES									
AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMP. RATE		
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985
REGION 3	133,901	134,469	136,175	17,790	19,312	17,227	13.3	14.4	12.7
Aitkin	5,181	5,212	5,490	919	950	1,115	17.7	18.2	20.3
Carlton	11,020	10,874	11,344	1,543	1,727	1,450	14.0	15.9	12.8
Cook	2,195	2,234	2,442	244	258	288	11.1	11.5	11.8
Itasca	17,005	16,717	17,695	2,553	2,580	2,447	15.0	15.4	13.8
Koochiching	7,707	7,961	8,736	848	896	1,387	11.0	11.3	15.9
Lake	4,222	4,195	4,137	735	767	664	17.4	18.3	14.6
St. Louis	86,571	87,276	86,331	10,956	12,134	9,936	12.7	13.9	11.5
City of Duluth	33,714	33,691	34,441	2,855	3,025	3,264	8.5	9.0	9.5
Balance St. Louis	52,857	53,585	51,890	8,101	9,109	6,672	15.3	17.0	12.9

DULUTH AND DULUTH-SUPERIOR MSA NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT										
INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT DULUTH			PERCENT CHANGE		EMPLOYMENT DULUTH-SUPERIOR			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	40,740	40,500	39,600	0.6	2.9	81,290	80,940	80,980	0.4	0.4
Total Manufacturing	3,520	3,480	3,470	1.2	1.6	6,730	6,640	6,700	1.4	0.4
Durable Goods	1,620	1,600	1,720	1.4	-6.0	3,680	3,620	3,970	1.7	-7.2
Non durable Goods	1,900	1,880	1,740	1.1	9.1	3,050	3,020	2,740	1.0	11.4
Total Nonmanufacturing	37,220	37,020	36,130	0.6	2.9	74,560	74,300	74,280	0.4	0.4
Construction	800	740	880	8.6	-9.3	1,980	1,800	1,960	10.1	0.8
Transp., Comm., & Pub. Util.	2,810	2,730	2,760	2.7	1.7	5,490	5,430	5,700	1.2	-3.6
Wholesale Trade	1,670	1,660	1,730	0.4	-3.5	3,520	3,520	3,530	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	8,690	8,780	8,820	-1.0	-1.5	17,680	17,710	17,470	-0.2	1.2
Finan., Insur., & Real Est.	1,740	1,740	1,730	-0.2	0.4	3,030	3,030	2,970	0.0	2.0
Services, Mining, & Misc.	11,610	11,540	11,050	0.6	5.0	23,650	23,510	24,090	0.6	-1.9
Government	9,910	9,830	9,160	0.8	8.2	19,220	19,300	18,570	-0.4	3.5

Analysis of Local Conditions

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

By Michael Casey

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES									
AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMP. RATE		
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985
REGION 6W	25,252	25,252	26,609	2,725	2,889	2,644	10.8	11.4	9.9
Big Stone	3,241	3,233	3,416	292	308	279	9.0	9.5	8.2
Chippewa	6,631	6,644	6,725	881	912	706	13.3	13.7	10.5
Lac Qui Parle	4,347	4,332	4,606	377	412	446	8.7	5	9.7
Swift	5,208	5,236	5,773	628	674	656	12.1	12.9	11.4
Yellow Medicine	5,825	5,807	6,089	547	583	557	9.4	10.0	9.1
REGION 8	61,369	61,238	62,723	5,145	5,439	4,966	8.4	8.9	7.9
Cottonwood	5,899	5,893	6,147	506	512	523	8.6	8.7	8.5
Jackson	6,288	6,243	6,153	729	760	455	11.6	12.2	7.4
Lincoln	3,244	3,252	3,443	306	332	310	9.4	10.2	9.0
Lyon	12,807	12,718	13,075	1,001	1,093	1,016	7.8	8.6	7.8
Murray	4,586	4,640	4,923	519	560	575	11.3	12.1	11.7
Nobles	10,415	10,505	10,734	778	872	833	7.5	8.3	7.8
Pipestone	5,413	5,346	5,541	299	316	296	5.5	5.9	5.3
Redwood	8,211	8,166	8,199	693	703	709	8.4	8.6	8.6
Rock	4,506	4,475	4,508	314	291	249	7.0	6.5	5.5
REGION 9	108,794	108,721	108,960	8,705	9,215	8,610	8.0	8.5	7.9
Blue Earth	27,224	27,279	27,393	1,623	1,800	1,653	6.0	6.6	6.0
Brown	13,410	13,438	13,386	1,090	1,227	1,199	8.1	9.1	9.0
Faribault	8,942	8,852	8,667	1,039	1,090	802	11.6	12.3	9.3
Le Sueur	10,628	10,709	10,273	1,181	1,298	1,226	11.1	12.1	11.9
Martin	12,212	12,179	12,382	1,048	1,126	910	8.6	9.2	7.3
Nicollet	14,378	14,367	14,590	767	822	905	5.3	5.7	6.2
Sibley	7,025	7,012	7,361	798	741	822	11.4	10.6	11.2
Waseca	9,480	9,365	9,084	804	714	649	8.5	7.6	7.1
Watsonwan	5,495	5,520	5,824	355	397	444	6.5	7.2	7.6
REGION 10	214,437	214,436	211,913	16,079	17,310	15,615	7.5	8.1	7.4
Dodge	7,361	7,339	7,475	833	892	794	11.3	12.2	10.6
Fillmore	10,285	10,157	10,515	1,098	1,142	1,189	10.7	11.2	11.3
Freeborn	16,546	16,674	16,935	1,255	1,422	1,499	7.6	8.5	8.9
Goodhue	19,875	19,965	19,907	1,379	1,513	1,492	6.9	7.6	7.5
Houston	8,804	8,808	9,289	746	780	748	8.5	8.9	8.1
Mower	19,734	19,776	19,340	1,571	1,653	1,287	8.0	8.4	6.7
Olmsted	57,857	58,021	56,932	2,951	3,172	2,871	5.1	5.5	5.0
Rice	25,873	25,888	24,762	2,085	2,341	1,908	8.1	9.0	7.7
Steele	14,762	14,627	14,281	1,212	1,250	1,011	8.2	8.5	7.1
Wabasha	8,432	8,429	8,683	896	987	928	10.6	11.7	10.7
Winona	24,908	24,752	23,794	2,053	2,158	1,888	8.2	8.7	7.9
ROCHESTER CITY	35,133	35,272	34,530	1,960	2,133	1,867	5.6	6.0	5.4

The employment situation throughout the counties of southern Minnesota improved somewhat in March. Seasonal employment gains began slightly earlier this year compared with 1985. Employment levels increased by about 2,400 positions between February and March, or nearly five times the jobs added for the same period one year ago. Each of the four economic development regions shared in this seasonal growth of jobs.

The estimated number of persons without jobs declined in March, by slightly less than the count of additional jobs, with some 2,200 fewer jobseekers over the month. With the combination of an increase in jobs and a decrease in those without work, the average rate of unemployment declined to 8.0 percent, down one-half of one percent from February's 8.5 percent rate. As with the employment estimates, all four regions shared in the decline of jobseekers.

Compared with one year ago, however, southern Minnesota's employment situation has deteriorated slightly. Nearly 1,200 fewer jobs were held by the region's labor force participants, and there were about 800 more jobseekers this March than in 1985. One year ago the rate of unemployment was slightly lower, with 7.8 percent of the labor force without jobs.

ROCHESTER MSA NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Feb. 1985	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	54,460	54,140	54,080	0.6	-0.7
Total Manufacturing	11,090	10,660	10,900	4.0	1.0
Durable Goods	9,240	8,820	9,310	4.7	-0.8
Nondurable Goods	1,850	1,840	1,660	0.5	11.1
Total Nonmanufacturing	43,370	43,480	43,110	-0.3	0.6
Construction & Mining	1,450	1,410	1,550	3.0	-6.6
Transp., Comm., & Public Util.	1,850	1,820	1,830	1.5	0.7
Wholesale Trade	1,140	1,160	1,200	-1.7	-5.6
Retail Trade	9,430	9,590	9,820	-1.7	-4.0
Finan., Insur., & Real Estate	1,540	1,550	1,470	-0.5	4.8
Total Services	22,150	22,150	21,560	0.0	2.8
Health Services	15,430	15,370	15,030	0.4	2.7
Other Services	6,730	6,780	6,530	-0.7	3.0
Government	5,820	5,810	5,670	0.0	2.6